# Wood Words

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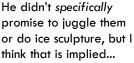
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HE NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS CITY WOODWORKERS' GUIL

Volume 28, Issue 8

## Live Chainsaw Juggling submitted by Cliff Schuette

Scott Engelman will be talking about chainsaws. He will present on the Use, Care, and Safety of the Chain Saw. Scott is a respected high school shop teacher, wood worker, and member of the KCWG. While you won't find a KCWG guide and test for the chain saw, many of us use chain saws from time to time although we have rarely received any expert training with this powerful and dangerous tool. This program is particularly important just for that reason.



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# Presidents's Corner submitted by Rob Young

Try something new. Experiment with technique. Discover how you learn. Write short sentences. I've had an onagain-off-again debate online with various woodworkers around the USA and now across the pond about how one learns new techniques. For the sake of argument, let's say the technique is a full-blind mitered dovetail. Do you rummage through the scrap bin for any old piece or two, scribe on some lines and start sawing away? Or do you take a more methodical approach and select wood similar to your usual project choice, sharpen the tools and ease into the method? Or do you break down the process even further and practice the individual steps, learning how to use a marking gauge, saw straight lines, chisel out waste to a line, etc? Another topic we've discussed many times is WHY to learn a new technique. For me, most of the time, I don't have a particular project in mind, I just find it fascinating. But others look for entire projects to which they add

one or two new techniques. I learn best through repetition so I'll prepare several work pieces and keep marking & cutting (filing, sawing, chiseling, planing, whatever) the joint over and over until I'm satisfied. In the end there might not even be a project to use the technique, I just wanted to learn how. As an aside, the Hamm Sanitary Landfill in Jefferson County has notified me that they will be dedicating a new pit for my practice joinery pieces. Fortunately, once this heat breaks and bonfire season is once again upon us, I can do something a little more exciting with my scrap.

These questions and arguments have been on my mind again because Dave Kraatz just had his presentation last month and follow-up clinic for a Porringer top table with tapered and splayed legs. For some of our members, this is nothing new and they can whip one together in an afternoon. For other members, it is something they knew of and perhaps employed one or two of the techniques but haven't combined them all. And then there are those for whom their eyes were opened and now they see tapered legs on every table when before they just didn't notice. It is gratifying to see all three of these people in the shop at the same time, each one helping the other in some way. The beginner learns new techniques, the intermediate woodworker learns how to combine techniques and refine them and the advanced woodworker is reminded of things they forgot, including why they enjoy the hobby in the first place.

A few years ago Cal Hobbs said something to me to the effect "None of these steps are difficult, it is just the order that is difficult". I think we were talking about Newport shell carving. The exact subject isn't important, what is important is knowing

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We would like thank all that participated ... those that purchased tools and those that assisted in transporting, tagging, and selling this huge collection.

The Guild has grossed \$4,751.20.20 in commissions and netted \$4,6671.71 after modest selling expenses ... an amount close to 10% of our 2012 budget. This amount is over 50% in excess of the \$3,000 net commissions goal set at the beginning of the project and included in the Sales Plan submitted to then Vice President, Rob Young, at his request last year.

Hurley Hand Tool Sale Comes to a Close submitted by William Johnston

At the instruction of the Board, we have concluded this project on behalf of the Guild with about \$7,000 to \$9,000 worth of tools remaining. Members and guests have purchased over \$23,000 from the Hurley Collection.

The room is now cleared and remaining tools have been returned to the Hurley Family for disposal independent of the KCWG and in accord with Helen Caples' instruction and agreement.

The Hurley Tool Sales have been a very popular event with the membership who have been able to purchase tools and repair existing hand tools at a fair price without the inconvenience of having to chase tools down tools and parts at garage sales, auctions and eBay. Chuck Lynn and I, along with many others who have assisted, have been pleased to have been able to place

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JOHN HAS A SET OF EXERCISES TO TEST YOUR ABILITIES AND BUILD YOUR SKILLS

## Intro to Scroll Saw Workshop submitted by Mark Waugh

John Tegeler will be having a hands on Scroll Saw workshop on Saturday August 25. This will cover a little history on the Scroll Saw as well as types of equipment and blades. Then it is on to the shop where John has a set of exercises to test your abilities and build your skills.

There are 3 sessions (10 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM) with a maximum

Come join us as Rob Young

of 4 students in each due to equipment limits. Sign up early as spots are already filling up.

This Intro to Scroll Sawing Workshop does not have a cost for the class but there is a \$10 material fee (\$12 if using PayPal). Note you must have a "Green Card" to use the equipment in the shop. If you need the Safety Orientation to get a "Green Card", you will need to sign up for the next class on Thursday August 23 at 7 PM.



### Step up Your Game in August Submitted by Mark Waugh

up your Game" clinics.

takes helps you "Step Up Your Game" with tool sharpening at 9:30 AM on Saturday the 18th of August. Rob will cover several methods of sharpening your tools so you can choose the method that will work with for you and maybe shed some insight as to the next steps in the "Step

# MEMBER PROJECTS



The figure on the lid of Dave's box.



Dave Clark put together this nice little box.



Caleb Schrader brought in this little shop made block plane.



Ken Grainger made this mirror seat.



Cliff O'Bryan brought in this box.



Craig Arnold finished up this dovetail vice.



Ed Darlington brought in this chain mortiser.



John Tegeler thinking aquatic thoughts this month.



And of course John also found time to make another box.

## **Hurley Tool Sale Concludes**

#### (Continued from page 2)

over 2,000 hand tools as well as additional replacement parts into members' hands this year at reasonable and fair prices while benefiting former member, Dan

#### Hurley's family and the Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild.

We wish to thank the Hurley family for this unique and prosperous opportunity and we're happy with the many benefits of the sale.

## Learning to Turn Clinic submitted by Mark Waugh

This Clinic was put on by our very own Anthony Harris on Saturday June 30. Anthony started out by talking about the lathe and what are the qualities of a good lathe. The first thing is to make sure it is a well built lathe, that is it has rigid construction. This will ensure that all of the parts stay in the same position while turning and won't flex or bend out of place. He also talked about the lathe needing a fair amount of mass (when compared to the work). If the lathe is light it will move as you are turning and as we all know, stationary tools need to stay put when in use!

He also talked about the parts of the lathe and what they were called. The head stock holds the spindle where power is applied to the work through a chuck or spur drive. At the other end is of course the tail stock that is used for "spindle" turning to hold the other end of your turning stock but not so much for "bowl" turning. Both the head stock and tail stock are mounted on the lathe bed and are held in place through some form of locking mechanism. Also there is a moveable tool rest that can be positioned as needed to hold

your tool close to the work.

Most of today's lathes are powered by electric motors and most have the ability to change speeds by changing where the drive belt is on the pulleys. Some lathes have a variable speed control that allows for more precise speed control. However if you are into historical reenactment, there are sites that still use human powered (great wheel & treadle) as well as animal, water, and engine driven lathes.

Anthony then talked a little about the 5 types of cuts most often used in wood turning. They are as follow:

Planing- just cutting a flat surface

Oblique-a flat cut at an angle across the grain

Cove- cutting a concave surface in the work

Bead- cutting a convex surface in the work

Fillet- this is just indenting a flat surface

After a little discussion he showed us how to do these cuts on a 'spindle' turning work piece. He then proceeded to make a small cup using all of the cuts mentioned above. As an added bonus he also added a 'Captive Ring' as well as other Goo-Ga's\* to show off what you can make on the lathe.

Anthony then talked about 'bowl' turning and how it was cutting the wood across the grain as opposed to 'spindle' turning is parallel to the grain. 'Bowl' turning you can use to make bowls, plates, platters, and face plate turning, He had a piece of willow that he had cut off a log just that morning. He showed us how to form a tendon to be used to hold the work piece in a chuck to be able to work and shape the turning. He also talked a little about the speeds you needed to use so that you can cut the shavings away with out having the work piece go flying across the room (or if you are like me, dodging as it comes at me). In general, faster is better but only after you have taken the edges off.

During the bowl shaping, Anthony talked a bit about how kiln dried wood acts ( little movement but does not cut as easily) vs. 'green' wood ( moves a lot, even as you are cutting it on the (Continued on page 5)



ANTHONY STARTED OUT BY TALKING ABOUT THE LATHE AND WHAT ARE THE QUALITIES OF A GOOD LATHE.



## **Turning With Anthony Harris**

#### (Continued from page 4)

lathe. He showed us how the bowl changes shape even as he removed the shavings due to the evaporation of the water in the wood. After shaping he showed how to add a few Goo-Ga's to embellish the bowl. He then talked about what you need to do with your turning (green wood) once completed. Due to the water loss your turning will change shape (warp, split, bend, etc). To slow this down, you can do a little shaping and then set the piece aside for a few days

to a week and them cut some more material off. If you do this slowly over time with many steps, you 'might' get a good turning. You can also 'season' the wood by moving it into the shop weeks or months ahead of time and let it acclimate to the shop environment (oh sure... I can wait that long). The other thing you may try is to place your turning in a bag (paper works good, plastic not so much) and then fold the top over to slow the rate of water evaporation. After a week or two it may stabilize. You can then add the finish of your choice and complete

your project ( or if it has too many design changes to your liking, add it to the burn pile).

Remember folks, this is a learning journey, not everything will turn out just right. But if you learned something along the way, you can use it on the next project.



Anthony demonstrating cutting angles.

KARA PARIS WILL BE OFFERING HER NIGHT CLASS, BEGINNING MACHINE WOOD WORKING

# **President's Corner**

#### (Continued from page 1)

the difference between what is difficult and what is easy. The small steps in the techniques are easy and one can grasp them quickly. The difficult part comes in getting them executed in the right order and knowing how to tweak the operations to fit your exact specifications. Difficult might even be too strong of an adjective. Challenging is a better one. As a way of addressing what some of our members find challenging, Mark Waugh has a series of free, "Step Up Your Game" clinics where he has identified a single step in a more complicated process, isolated it and then wants

you to come in to learn and share something on that topic.

Our next clinic on August 18th will cover the challenge of sharpening. I've said this to a lot of people, "sharpening is a gateway skill, once you can sharpen your tools, you stop fighting with them and start using them." The clinic will focus on plane irons and chisels and how you can go from dull or damaged to sharp and honed in just a few steps and without spending vast sums of money. And for those who missed out on Junior High woodshop or just need a refresher course, Kara Paris will be offering her night class, Beginning Machine Woodworking starting

in September. Be sure to remind her that Intermediate Machine Woodworking would be a good follow-up class. Ron Lomax is busy with his Triple Box Class and Mark Waugh is putting together the ingredients for additional intermediate and advanced classes this fall.

So please tell us how you learn. And especially WHAT you want to learn.



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ANSAS CITY WOODWORKERS' GUILD

The Kansas City Woodworkers' Guild is a great source of information for every level of woodworker from amateur to professional. At monthly meetings, members can improve woodworking techniques and skills through hands on demonstrations, guest speakers and discussions. The Guild supports its own Woodworking Shop, publishes a monthly newsletter with articles of interest, reports of events, notes, & comments, sends out for sale/wanted ads and sponsors' specials by E-mail. Many of our sponsors give members special prices and/or discounts on purchases of select tools and materials.

# Upcoming Events and Important Dates

August general meeting — August 15th—Chainsaws Step up your game—Sharpening—August 18th Scroll Saw Workshop — August 25th September general meeting — September 19th, Apollo Sprayers Demo



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